

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A golf ball retrieval tool comprising:

an elongated handle; and

a cage located at one end of the elongated handle, the cage having a rear end facing the elongated handle, a first section located at the rear end of the cage, a front end facing away from the elongated handle, a second section located at the front end and connected to the first section, and a roof extending from the rear end to the front end, wherein the first cage section has a first opening located generally opposite the roof of the cage and adjacent the elongated handle and dimensioned to freely receive a golf ball, wherein the first opening is open downwards and rearwards when viewed from the roof of the cage, wherein the second section includes a second opening located generally opposite the rear end of the cage and having a diameter smaller than a diameter of the golball so as to form a ball seating retaining the golball therein, the second opening being operable to be enlarged by pressing the golball through the second opening, and wherein the roof of the cage has a third opening dimensioned to allow the golball to protrude through the third opening above the roof of the cage, the roof of the cage having a wedge-shaped configuration operable, when viewed from the rear, to drive the golball received through the first opening into the ball seating in response to pressing the cage generally vertically against the golball.

2. (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 1, wherein a threshold is formed between the first section and the second section of the cage, the threshold being operable to prevent the golball from rolling from the ball seating into the first cage section until the tool is forced into a position in which the elongated handle is positioned horizontally.

3. (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 1, wherein a plane defined by an edge of the second opening defines an angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of the elongated handle.

4. (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 1, wherein the ball seating is operable to position a center of gravity of the golfball beneath a longitudinal axis of the elongated handle and the cage roof is operable to retain the golball in a position in which the center of gravity of the golball lies beneath the longitudinal axis of the elongated handle when the cage is rotated 180 degrees about the longitudinal axis of the elongated handle so as to position the roof downwardly.

5. (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 2, wherein a plane defined by an edge of the second opening defines an angle with respect to a longitudinal axis of the elongated handle.